



## DOE DIALOGUE | Weekly Message from Superintendent Ritz

May 27, 2014

I spent time with family and friends over the Memorial weekend...remembering those who serve our country and enjoying the freedom of being an American. The great weather and picnic food was great, too!

Please share my final [2013-14 Message to Educators video](#) with your staff. I know some of you are ending the school year this week. Also, please send the following Hoosier Family of Readers links to your teachers so that they can promote and encourage student reading over the summer months.

- [Hoosier Family of Readers Monthly Newsletter](#)
- [myON Introductory Letter for Families](#)

To those superintendents and principals who are retiring this year, THANK YOU for your service to Indiana's children. On behalf of myself, and the Department of Education, your dedication to education is very much appreciated! Enjoy your retirement, but please stay involved in the education conversation. To those who will be returning to our schools next year, I thank you, too!! Have a great summer break!

The DOE Dialogue will continue to be published each Monday throughout the summer. Feel free to leave comments at [doecomm@doe.in.gov](mailto:doecomm@doe.in.gov).

Sincerely,

Glenda Ritz, Superintendent of Public Instruction

### Memorandum

**MEMORANDUM:** The Literacy Specialists at the Indiana Department of Education invite high school English, Social Studies, Science, and Math teachers to attend the [College and Career Ready Bridge Course Summit for Literacy and Math Readiness](#) in Indianapolis on June 23-25 at Avon High School to learn about the SREB Readiness Courses. Administrators, guidance counselors, and literacy coaches are also encouraged to attend this training. We ask that at least 4 teachers (one from each discipline) plus one additional staff member attend this summit. The deadline to [register](#) for the summit is June 13! Please contact Jill Lyday, Secondary Literacy Specialist at [jlyday@doe.in.gov](mailto:jlyday@doe.in.gov) if you have any questions or concerns.

**MEMORANDUM:** REMINDER -- The DOE-EE data collection opened on 4/15/2014 and will close at 11:59 P.M. EDT on May 30, 2014. The purpose of this collection is to allow schools to identify student-to-teacher linkages that will be used to assign student Growth Model scores to teachers for the purpose of educator evaluations (IC 20-28-11.5). The data reported on the 2013-14 period 1 Certified Employee (DOE-CE), Certified Position (DOE-CP) and Course Completion (DOE-CC) will link teachers to students and will be the starting point for the DOE-EE. If corporations expect to receive teacher effectiveness ratings to use in their evaluation process then the DOE-EE data MUST be submitted. Districts are required to use objective measures of student growth and achievement in their teacher evaluations per IC 20-28-11.5 and 511 IAC 10-6-4(a). Districts whose 2013-14 evaluation plans require the use of the teacher effectiveness ratings calculated and delivered by the DOE must submit the DOE-EE collection. The data layout can be found [here](#). Please email Sarah Pies at [spies@doe.in.gov](mailto:spies@doe.in.gov) if you have questions or concerns.

**MEMORANDUM:** The Indiana Department of Education would like to gather information from all building principals to help guide future professional development. This quick survey will inform our work on the needs of building principals to better support their teachers and to help develop more effective and highly effective teachers. Please complete the survey by June 20, 2014. The survey can be found [here](#). If you have questions, please email Sarah Pies at [spies@doe.in.gov](mailto:spies@doe.in.gov).

**MEMORANDUM:** Graduation Rate for Students Determined to be at an Unknown Location -- Under IC 20-26-13, a school may provide documentation that a child is missing to determine the school's graduation rate. If the school uses this option, [this memorandum](#) clarifies the Indiana Department of Education and the Indiana State Police policy on reporting missing children under IC 20-26-13.

**MEMORANDUM:** The submission of your 2014-15 Elementary Reading Plan is due by June 30, 2014. Pursuant to state regulations, the State Board of Education is required to request that all State Board accredited schools with kindergarten through grade 3 submit an annual Elementary Reading Plan. Reading Plans should be submitted [online](#). Principals must utilize their personal school/pin login to access DOE Online.

**MEMORANDUM:** High school English teachers: for Hoosier Family of Readers' Summer of Exploration, encourage your high school students to explore modern poetry! Billy Collins, former Poet Laureate of the United States, and the Library of Congress have created a cool website called "[Poetry 180: A Poem a Day for American High School Students](#)". Encourage students to read, recite, and write poetry this summer. Follow [this link](#) to find out how your high schools can become part of the 10th anniversary of the state and national Poetry Out Loud competition when school begins!

**MEMORANDUM:** The Title I Team, with support from American Institutes for Research, will be hosting a [Title I Summit](#) in Indianapolis on June 19th. The keynote speaker for the event will be Dr. Tim Shanahan - known for his research and work on reading, English Language Learners, and Urban Education. The FREE event will also feature Superintendent Ritz, Indiana Title I Distinguished Schools, High Performing and School Improvement Secondary Schools, as well as the National Center for Families Learning. Topics will include literacy, response to intervention, closing the achievement gap, data, building community partners, and parent involvement. Elementary and secondary educators, administrators, and coaches are invited to attend. [Registration Information](#) can be found on the Indiana Department of Education Title I webpage.

**MEMORANDUM:** The Indiana School Safety Academy is co-sponsoring a regional training on July 18 in Indianapolis titled "Teen Dating Violence/Sexual Assault: Creating a Safe Environment at School", presented by Chris Warren from the Domestic Violence Network and Colleen Yeakle from the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Participants at this training will receive one day of annual Safety Specialist re-certification for the 2014-2015 school year. Registration and additional information are available [online](#).

**MEMORANDUM:** The Department of Education champions international partnerships and world language learning because all our students and teachers benefit from the global perspectives that result from exchanges of students, teachers and administrators and introduction to world languages. Global partnerships are growing throughout Indiana in our schools but there is room for substantial growth in international exchange, global learning and study of world languages. The Department is requesting that you participate in a [quick survey](#) to help us understand the state of global learning in Indiana schools today and get involved with our Advancing Global Programs Team that will bring curricular resources, model programs and professional development opportunities to your region.

**MEMORANDUM:** You are invited to join the [eLearning Book Club](#) and read [Thrive: 5 Ways to \(Re\)Invigorate Your Teaching](#) by National Board Certified teacher Meenoo Rami. Our online weekly book discussions will begin on Monday, June 2nd and will end Friday, August 1. We will begin with a week of introductions, and then each week a discussion prompt will be shared in the blog and participants will be invited to respond, sharing their thoughts, ideas, and/or questions. All participants who make a meaningful contribution to each week's discussion will be entered into a drawing to win a \$1000 professional development grant. More than one grant will be given so, [buy the book](#), [join the blog](#), and dive into the discussions that begin on June 2nd!

## Information From Other Agencies

**Central Indiana Educational Services Center** (CIESC) offers a variety of professional learning workshops, to view these events visit [www.ciesc.k12.in.us](#) -- click on "Services" then "Professional Learning".

**The Indiana Council for Economic Education** (ICEE) is accepting nominations and applications for the 2014 Olin Davis Award for Exemplary Teaching of Economics. This distinguished award is presented each year to K-12 teachers who have excelled in teaching and promoting the teaching of economics or personal finance. One outstanding teacher will be selected as the statewide winner. Regional winners will each receive \$500 and the statewide winner receives \$1,000. These awards are made possible by the generous support of Indiana Farm Bureau and Farm Bureau Insurance. All will be honored at the Annual Awards Program of the ICEE in the fall of 2014. [Applications](#) are due in the ICEE office by June 30. More details are available [online](#). Contact Jeff

Sanson, ICEE Executive Director, at [jjsanson@purdue.edu](mailto:jjsanson@purdue.edu) or by phone at 765-494-0188 if you have additional questions.

**The Indiana Troopers Youth Services organization** coordinates the Indiana State Police Summer Youth Camp Program each summer. The camps have been held every summer since 1970, and are age-appropriate for 5th grade through high school. Four camps are offered for 5-6 graders; 2 for 7-8 graders and 2 for high school age students. All camps are held on Indiana college campuses. Thanks to the generosity of service organizations and individuals, some financial assistance available to help families in need. Visit the [website](#) for additional information and to access the application. Contact Karen W. Shelton at 800-671-9851 with your questions and concerns.

**The Ford Hoosier Outdoor Experience** - the Midwest's largest outdoor recreational event - is searching for volunteers. The 2014 event will take place at Fort Harrison State Park in Indianapolis, 9/20-9/21. This free, family-friendly event offers more than 50 different outdoor activities and runs from 10am-6pm each day. Volunteers will be assigned to help in five-hour shifts with one of the many on-site activities such as fishing, mountain biking, canoeing, archaeological dig and more. Come experience one of the greatest events of the year! Volunteers can [sign up](#) starting July 1st. Contact volunteer coordinator Cheryl Hampton at (317) 233-1002 or [champton@dnr.in.gov](mailto:champton@dnr.in.gov) if you have any questions.

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